of our land area is rapidly turning into desert and also that 70. per cent of all available water is polluted;

(b) if so, what is Government's re action in this regard; and

(c) what are the other environmen tal findings in the report and the steps being taken in that context?,

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN . LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have identified the various environmental problems and are taking steps to solve them.

(c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. *[See* Appendix CXL, Annexure No. 65]

Review of Working of GovernmentDepartments

*256, SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government recently undertook an exercise to review the functions of various Government departments with a view *to* streamline the working and avoid dup-licacy of work; and

(b) if so, the results of such an exercise and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this direction?

' THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a)' and (b) Reviews toward rationalisation and further streamlining of the functioning of government departments is a continuing process. Illustrative lists of some . recent steps -taken in this direction were laid on the Table of the House on 6-11-86 in reply to Unstarred Question No. 322.

Briefcase Containing Bomb like Device in a DTC Bus

*257. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question **408** given in the Rajya Sabha on 6th November, 1986 and state what steps are being taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents as happened on **1st** September, 1986 in Delhi where a briefcase containing a bomb-like device was found in a D. T. C, bus?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): Steps like increased foot and mobile patrolling, intensive checking of vulnerable places, posting pickets at strategic point, vigilance at crowded places, surprise- checking of vehicles, strengthening of border checkposts and holding of inter-State/inter-district meetings to exchange information about the movements of extremists, have been taken. Publicity is made through the media cautioning the people not to pick up unclaimed objects and t inform the police if they come across any unclaimed suspicious object.

Clearance of irrigation **Projects of**Tamil Nadu pending: **with thPlanning** Commission

*258.SHRIT.R.BALU:

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of minor and major irrigation projects of Tamil Nadu presently pending with the Planning Com-mission;

(b) date on which each report of these projects have been submitted;

(c) at what stage each project is pending for clearance; and

(d) what steps are being taken to-clear these prbjtectSj expeditiously?